



Council Meeting: May 25, 2010

SUBJECT: Approve Proposed Revisions to Council Policy 7.3.13 *Support for Councilmembers; Staff-Council Communications*

BACKGROUND

A recent Council inquiry on the process and timing for presenting pending ballot propositions to Council prompted a review of Council Policy 7.3.13, *Support for Councilmembers; Staff-Council Communications*.

EXISTING POLICY

Council Policy 7.3.13 *Support for Councilmembers; Staff-Council Communications*.

DISCUSSION

Council Policy 7.3.13, *Support for Councilmembers; Staff-Council Communications* is being revised to capture Council's request to schedule RTC presentations of ballot measures in time for the distribution of absentee ballots. Staff has also clarified the policy to allow for any ballot measure issue that is already covered by City policy to include only a citation and summary of that existing policy and not include additional analysis.

The current policy, in its entirety, is available at *CouncilPolicy.InSunnyvale.com*. Below is a version of the revised excerpt with new language in **bold**.

4. Ballot Measure Positions

As soon as possible following the release of the Secretary of State's *Official Voter Information Guide (Guide)* or the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voter's *Voter Information Pamphlet (Pamphlet)*, staff will present to Council a report reviewing proposed ballot measures. (Should Council want to review proposed ballot measures prior to the release of the *Guide* or *Pamphlet*, Council should request such a review of the city manager; in this instance, the report will most likely not include staff analysis.)

Staff shall **provide analysis and a position recommendation of** review only those ballot measures that directly impact City business. Consistent with Council Policy 7.3.2, *Legislative Advocacy Positions*, City business is defined as all matters directly related to service delivery, or otherwise contributing to the City's operational success. **All measures deemed not City business will be presented via the same report for potential Council action, however, will not include staff analysis.** If staff is unclear about whether a specific measure affects City business staff shall consult the Mayor and Vice Mayor **with an**

initial review of the measures and a proposed designation of City business or not City business.

Any ballot measure issue that is already covered by City policy will include a citation and summary of that policy. Ballot measure issues which are not covered by existing policy will include staff analysis of potential impacts to City operations or fiscal impacts.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, Community Center and Department of Public Safety; and by making the agenda and report available at the Sunnyvale Public Library, the Office of the City Clerk and on the City's Web site.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Approve the policy revisions as presented.
2. Approve the policy with alternative revisions.
3. Other direction as provided by council.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Alternative 1. Approve the policy revisions as presented.

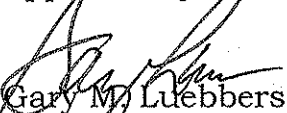
Reviewed by:



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Approved by:



Gary M. Luebbers
City Manager